

Howard 500 adds some romance from the past

While there are many new models gracing the flight line at the NBAA static park at Henderson Airport, it is a vintage executive aircraft that was getting all the attention this morning.

The Howard 500 was an American executive transport aircraft produced by

Howard Aero Inc during the early 1960s, and is now just one of two flying models left in the world.

The pair are owned by Minneapolis-based TP Aero, which focuses on restoring and maintaining aircraft that have made their mark on history.

The aircraft on display was brought back from Europe where it had been based for more than 30 years, and restored with a new paint job to reflect the style developed by manufacturer Dee Howard and his legendary mechanic Ed Swearingen.

As one of the pioneering executive air-

craft, the Howard 500 was the last radial engine passenger transport ever built.

TP Aero owner Tony Phillippi says: "The plane is part of aviation's romantic past and best times. When she arrives and departs, those who love aviation gather for the joy of the moment."

◀ **VINTAGE:**
TP Aero specialises in historically important aircraft



Pictures: Billy Pox